

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region
3737 Main Street, Suite 500
Riverside, CA 92501-3348

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

For
ORDER NO. R8-2004-0074
Amending Order No. 01-23, NPDES NO. CA0105694
For
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Robert B. Diemer Filtration Plant
Orange County

On the basis of preliminary staff review and application of lawful standards and regulations, the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, proposes to amend the waste discharge requirements for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California Robert B. Diemer Filtration Plant, to rename the existing Outfall No. 003 to Outfall No. 003 East and add new Outfall No. 003 West or Settling Basin No. 8 spillway Conduit.

The Board is seeking comments concerning the proposed amendment to waste discharge requirements and the potential effects of the discharge on the water quality and beneficial uses of the affected receiving waters, including the Santa Ana River.

The Board will hold a public hearing to consider adoption of the proposed waste discharge requirements as follows:

DATE: December 20, 2004
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: City Council Chambers of Loma Linda
25541 Barton Road
Loma Linda

Interested persons are invited to submit written comments on the proposed Order No. R8-2004-0074. Interested persons are also invited to attend and express their views on issues relating to the proposed Order. Oral statements will be heard, but should be brief to allow all interested persons time to be heard. For the accuracy of the record, all testimony (oral statements) should be submitted in writing.

Although all comments that are provided up to and during the public hearing on this matter will be considered, receipt of comments by November 29, 2004 would be appreciated so that they can be used in the formulation of the draft Order that will be transmitted to the Board two weeks prior to the hearing. The draft Order may contain changes resulting from comments received from the public. To view and/or download a copy of the draft Order, please access our website at <http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/santaana> on or after November 20, 2004.

The Board's proposed Order, related documents, and all comments and petitions received may be inspected and copied at the **Regional Board office, 3737 Main Street, Suite 500, Riverside, CA 92501-3348 (951) 782-4130** by appointment scheduled between the hours of 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Copies of the proposed Order will be mailed to interested persons upon request to J.Shami (951) 782-3288.

Any person who is physically handicapped and requires reasonable accommodation to participate in this Regional Board Meeting should contact Catherine Ehrenfeld (951) 782-3285 no later than December 3, 2004. Please bring the foregoing to the attention of any person known to you who would be interested in this matter.

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

December 20, 2004

ITEM:

SUBJECT: Amendment to Order No. 01-23, NPDES No. CA0105694, Waste Discharge Requirements, The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California, Robert B. Diemer Filtration Plant, Order No. R8-2004-0074

DISCUSSION:

On June 1, 2001, the Board adopted Order No. 01-23, NPDES No. CA0105694, renewing waste discharge requirements for the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California's Robert B. Diemer Filtration Plant for the discharge of wastewater from the facility into Telegraph Canyon Creek, Carbon Canyon Creek, and other unnamed tributaries.

On April 29, 2004, the discharger requested that Order No. 01-23 be amended to rename the existing Outfall No. 003 to Outfall No. 003 East and to add new Outfall No. 003 West (also known as Settling Basin No. 8 Spillway Conduit). Outfall 003 West is proposed to have a design capacity of 340 MGD and is anticipated to have a maximum daily average discharge of 25,000 GPD. Discharges from this outfall will be to Telegraph Canyon Creek. Construction of the outfall is scheduled to start in January 2005. The effluent water quality from this outfall is anticipated to be the same as the existing Outfall 003 discharges.

The maximum daily average discharge for the renamed Outfall 003 East will remain the same (25,000 GPD) and there will be no physical changes to this outfall.

The discharger has already obtained requisite approvals from the Department of Fish & Game (Fish and Game Code 1601 Streambed Alteration Agreement), Regional Water Quality Control Board (Clean Water Act Section 401 water quality standards certification), and US Army Corps of Engineers (Clean Water Act Section 404 permit) for dredge/fill activities related to the construction of the outfall. A CEQA document for the project was certified by the Metropolitan's Board of Directors in March 2004.

Board Staff believes that the addition of Outfall 003 West to the facility will not adversely affect the beneficial uses of the receiving waters.

The following show the proposed changes to the Order. Additions are bold and highlighted. Deletions are stricken-out.

1. Page 1 of 7 of Order No. 01-23, modify Finding 2 with the following:
 2. The Robert B. Diemer Filtration Plant treats a blend of raw water from the California State Water Project and the Colorado River for potable use. The water treatment plant waste is discharged to six settling basins, two of which are used for emergency backup. The following is a list of outfall locations, discharge volumes, and discharge points:

Outfall No.	Latitude	Longitude	Discharge (gpd)	Discharge to
001 ¹	33°54'36"	117°48'50"	100,000	Telegraph Canyon Creek and Carbon Canyon Creek
002 ²	33°54'50"	117°49'20"	-----	Unnamed water course and Carbon Canyon Creek
003³ East	33°54'49"	117°49'01"	25,000	Telegraph Canyon Creek
003⁴ West	33°55'65"	117°48'94"	25,000	Telegraph Canyon Creek
004 ⁵	33°54'51"	117°49'10"	10,000	Unnamed water course and Telegraph Canyon Creek

2. Page 2 of 4 of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-23, modify paragraph B.1. with the following:
 1. ~~A sampling station shall be located where representative samples of the discharge can be obtained from Outfall 001, the four sedimentation basins and Outfall 003, the plant rejection structure (hydraulic overflow, leakage, and nuisance water discharge).~~ **A sampling station shall be located where representative samples of the discharge can be obtained from Outfalls 001, 002, 003 East, 003 West and 004.** The following shall constitute the effluent monitoring program:

¹ Four sedimentation basins.

² Two emergency discharge sedimentation basins.

³ **Plant rejection structure (hydraulic overflow, leakage, and nuisance water discharge).**

⁴ **Settling Basin No. 8 Spillway Conduit (340 MGD design capacity).**

⁵ **Leakage discharge from 25 million gallon reservoir.**

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt Order No. R8-2004-0074 as presented.

Comments were solicited from the following agencies:

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Permits Issuance Section – Doug Eberhardt (WTR-5)
U.S. Army District, Los Angeles, Corps of Engineers – Regulatory Branch
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service – Carlsbad
State Water Resources Control Board, Office of the Chief Counsel – Jorge Leon
State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality – James Maughan
California Regional Water Quality Control Board – Los Angeles Region
State Department of Water Resources - Glendale
State Department of Fish and Game – Long Beach
California Department of Health Services – Santa Ana
Orange County Health Care Agency – Jack Miller
Orange County Resources and Development Management Department – Chris Crompton
Orange County Water District – Nira Yamachika
City of Yorba Linda – City Manager
Orange County Coastkeeper - Garry Brown
Lawyers for Clean Water C/c San Francisco Baykeeper

California Regional Water Quality Control Board
Santa Ana Region

ORDER NO. R8-2004-0074

Amending Order No. 01-23, NPDES No. CA0105694
Waste Discharge Requirements
for
The Metropolitan Water District of Southern California
Robert B. Diemer Filtration Plant
Yorba Linda, Orange County

The California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region (hereinafter, Regional Board), finds that:

1. On June 1, 2001, the Board adopted Order No. 01-23, NPDES No. CA0105694, renewing waste discharge requirements for the Robert B. Diemer Filtration Plant, which is owned and operated by the Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (hereinafter discharger). Wastewater discharges from the Plant are to Telegraph Canyon Creek, Carbon Canyon Creek, and other unnamed tributaries. These creeks flow into the Santa Ana River or San Gabriel River.
2. On April 29, 2004, the discharger requested that Order No. 01-23 be amended to rename the existing Outfall No. 003 to Outfall No. 003 East and add new Outfall No. 003 West (also known as Settling Basin No. 8 Spillway Conduit).
3. The existing outfall No. 003 is the current Plant Rejection Structure at Telegraph Canyon Creek and serves the entire facility. The outfall is permitted for a maximum discharge of 25,000 gallons per day (gpd). Wastewater discharges into Outfall 003 come from minor plant leakage, sample/instrument water flow from plant operations, sedimentation basins leakage, and "non-industrial" storm water.
4. The settling Basin No. 8 Spillway Conduit Project will modify the existing outfall No. 003 to separate the plant rejection into two distinct outfalls, East and West outfalls. There will be no physical changes to Outfall No. 003. The new Outfall 003 West is anticipated to have a maximum daily average discharge of 25,000 gpd. The effluent water quality from Outfall 003 West will be the same as Outfall 003 East.
5. In accordance with Water Code Section 13389, the amendment of Order No. 01-23 is exempt from those provisions of the California Environmental Quality Act contained in Chapter 3 (commencing with Section 21100), Division 13 of the Public Resources Code.
6. The Regional Board has notified the discharger and other interested agencies and persons of its intent to prescribe waste discharge requirements for the discharge and has provided them with an opportunity to submit their written views and recommendations.
7. The Regional Board, in a public meeting, heard and considered all comments pertaining to the discharge.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Order No. 01-23, NPDES No. CA0105694 be amended as follows:

1. Page 1 of 7 of Order No. 01-23, replace Finding 2 with the following:
2. The Robert B. Diemer Filtration Plant treats a blend of raw water from the California State Water Project and the Colorado River for potable use. The water treatment plant waste is discharged to six settling basins, two of which are used for emergency backup. The following is a list of outfall locations, discharge volumes, and discharge points:

Outfall No.	Latitude	Longitude	Discharge (gpd)	Discharge to
001 ¹	33°54'36"	117°48'50"	100,000	Telegraph Canyon Creek and Carbon Canyon Creek
002 ²	33°54'50"	117°49'20"	-----	Unnamed water course and Carbon Canyon Creek
003 ³ East	33°54'49"	117°49'01"	25,000	Telegraph Canyon Creek
003 ⁴ West	33°55'65"	117°48'94"	25,000	Telegraph Canyon Creek
004 ⁵	33°54'51"	117°49'10"	10,000	Unnamed water course and Telegraph Canyon Creek

2. Page 2 of 4 of Monitoring and Reporting Program No. 01-23, replace paragraph B.1. with the following:
 1. A sampling station shall be located where representative samples of the discharge can be obtained from Outfalls 001, 002, 003 East, 003 West and 004. The following shall constitute the effluent monitoring program:
3. All other conditions and requirements of Order No. 01-23, NPDES No. CA0105694 shall remain unchanged.

I, Gerard J. Thibeault, Executive Officer, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of an order adopted by the California Regional Water Quality Control Board, Santa Ana Region, on December 20, 2004.

Gerard J. Thibeault
Executive Officer

¹ Four sedimentation basins.
² Two emergency discharge sedimentation basins.
³ Plant rejection structure (hydraulic overflow, leakage, and nuisance water discharge).
⁴ Settling Basin No. 8 Spillway Conduit (340 MGD design capacity).
⁵ Leakage discharge from 25 million gallon reservoir.